

# Baby brochure can help parents

**D**ear Ann Landers: More and more doctors and parents agree that early intervention is the key to controlling or correcting physical challenges, such as cerebral palsy. To assure early intervention, parents must know what warning signs to look for. Many of your readers have babies or young children, and you can help them by printing this information.



**ANN LANDERS**

The Pathways Awareness Foundation in Chicago publishes a brochure for parents with babies. This is a brochure that enables parents to detect a physically challenging condition early in a child's life, so the condition can be treated as soon as possible.

It includes pictures that show the difference between a normally developing child and one with physical difficulties, making it easy for parents to spot a problem and consult with their doctors.

Parents who frequently notice the following signs in their infants should consult their pediatricians at once:

- Inability to lift head or push up on arms by 3 months of age
- Stiff or rigid legs
- Pushing back or away with head
- Flabby or limp body posture
- Stiff, crossed legs at 6 months
- Inability to sit up without support by 8 months
- Using only one side of the body or only the arms to crawl

When physical problems appear, the following behavioral problems may be additional warning signs:

- Extreme irritability
- Failure to smile by 3 months
- Feeding difficulties
- Persistent gagging or choking when fed
- After 6 months, tongue pushes soft food out of mouth

Children with physical challenges can lead more independent, more productive lives when treatment is sought early. That's why the Pathways Awareness Foundation brochure and knowing the signs to look for are so important.

If you wish more information on this subject, get a free copy of the Pathways brochure. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Pathways Awareness Foundation, 123 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60606. — H. Garry Gardner, M.D., president, Illinois Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics

Dear Readers: I have seen this brochure and it is excellent. All parents should send for a copy. If you notice that your child has some of the symptoms listed in this column, please see your pediatrician and get the help you need.

**September 12, 1990:**

Received Over 14,000 Inquiries.  
Approximate Breakdown:

- 6,500 from Parents
- 5,000 from Grandparents/Relatives
- 3,500 from Agencies and Professionals